


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: May 11, 2005

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Project Agreement with the County of Los Angeles to use Proposition A Big Five Excess Funds to improve Marsh Street Park along the Los Angeles River, Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into a Project Agreement with the County of Los Angeles to use Proposition A Big Five Excess Funds in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 to improve Marsh Street Park along the Los Angeles River.

Background: Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) submitted a preliminary grant application for Marsh Street Park improvements for Proposition 50 Chapter 8 funding. The grant deadline is July 15, 2005. However, all materials, including demonstration of matching fund availability, must be submitted to the lead agency for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group by June 15, 2005. The grant program requires a non-state matching source. Big Five Excess funds are the only non-state source available to the MRCA to provide such match.

Supervisory District One Big Five Excess Funds can only be spent in District One. Expenditure of the subject sub-account of excess funds requires consensus between the MRCA and the subject Supervisor and subsequently the Board of Supervisors approval. The use of these funds has not been approved yet by the District One Supervisor.

The attached maps show the project location and park context along the Los Angeles River. The subject project has thus be favorably reviewed in terms of its eligibility for Chapter 8 funding.

The proposed project is the conversion of an undeveloped 5-acre parcel owned by the MRCA (adjacent to the natural-streambed portion of the Los Angeles River) into a natural public park, with the addition of a water retention system to capture, filter,

and store stormwater on site. Vegetated bioswales and vegetated areas for infiltration will be created on site to collect and treat runoff from the site itself, 44,300 s.f. of roof area, and a portion of runoff from Rosanna Street and Gleneden Street.

The more matching funds that an applicant can add to a Chapter 8 grant application, the higher the project will rank within the Integrated Water Management Plan submitted by the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group and in terms of funding from the Department of Water Resources. To achieve the 35 percent match threshold necessary for higher project ranking by the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group, the minimum amount of Proposition A funding thus far included in the preliminary grant applications is \$288,050.